

UNIT 7 VOCABULARY

Lesson 2: Water and the Water Cycle

Precipitation - moisture, such as rain, snow, sleet, and hail, that falls from the atmosphere to the earth

Run-off - Water that flows off land into streams and other waterways. During a rainstorm, fertilizer from a field may be carried into a stream as runoff, causing nonpoint-source pollution.

Water Vapor - water in the form of a gas is called water vapor and it is a result of the process of water evaporation

Lesson 3: Ocean Water

Composition - a product of mixing or combining various elements or ingredients

Density - the concentration of matter in an object or part of an object

Salinity - the degree of saltiness of a salt solution, especially applied to ocean water

Lesson 4: Ocean Currents

Convection Current - Circulating air caused when warm air rises and cool air sinks. Convection currents occur throughout the world.

Downwelling - the process of downward movement of ocean water

Upwelling - the upward movement of nutrient-rich, cold, deep water that replaces warmer surface waters that are moved by wind

Lesson 5: Ocean Waves

Crest - the high point of a wave

Trough - the low point of a wave

Wave - A way in which the energy of motion moves through a substance. The wave of water crashed onto the rocks with a mighty roar of sound energy.

Wave Height - the vertical distance between a trough and a crest

Wave Period - The time between the crest of one wave and the crest of the next wave. A wave produced by the wind has a wave period of less than 30 seconds.

Wavelength - The distance between two crests or two troughs. The wavelengths between crests can vary greatly, depending on location and weather.

Lesson 6: Ocean Tides

Neap Tide - happens when the moon and the sun create a right angle with the earth. The low tides tend to be higher than usual, and the high tides tend to be lower than usual.

Spring Tide - happens when the sun, earth and moon are aligned. Causes higher high tides, and lower low tides.